

UTAH CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEMILITARIZATION DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2000 - 6:30 P.M.
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BUILDING

MINUTES

Members Present:

BAUER, Dan	Tooele County
BENNETT, John	SAC
BOWMAN, Jane, MD	Western OB/GYN
DOWNS, Dennis	DEQ
GRIFFITH, Gary	Tooele County Commission
HOLT, Rosemay	Women Concerned
HULLINGER, Sid	Tooele County
OSTLER, Dave	SAC
SILCOX, Dr. Geoff	U of U
WHITE, Beverly	Tooele County
WINTERS, Suzanne	State Science Advisor

Guests Present:

BARCLAY, Don	CAMDS
BILLS, Ray	TOCDF
BITTNER, Chris	DEQ
BURROWS, Tim	TOCDF
BURROWS, Sanya	Citizen
CALDWELL, Monte	PMCD-TOCDF
COLBURN, James	EG&G
COSTANZO, Jeri	DCD
ERNSTROM, Paula	CEM
GRAY, Martin	UDEQ
GRENIER, Roger	TOCDF Safety Committee
GROENEWOLD, Jason	F.A.I.R.
HOLT, Reed L.	OME

HUFF, Rodney	DCD
HUFF, Susan	DCD
JACKSON, James	Army PMCD
JOHNSON, Patty	EG&G
JOHNSON, Susanna	Sec. CAC
KING, Cindy	Utah Sierra Club
KURKJY, Tom	Citizen
LAMB, Lorrie	Citizen
LARSEN, Lorin	CEM
MADDOX, Jack	EG&G
MESESAN, Mark	EG&G
OLIVER, Harold	DCD
OWENS, Doug	Parsons Behle & Latimer
PATE, Col. Ed	DCD
PENNOCK, Sonya	EPA
RASMUSSEN, Kaylynn	EG&G
RAY, Gaylon H.	DCD
ROWE, Mike	EG&G
SAGERS, Kari	Tooele Co. Emergency
SAUPE, Mike	TOCDF
SCHMERKER, Jeff	Tooele Transcript Bulletin
SNELL, Dick	EG&G
VAN NOY, Heidi	CAMDS
WALTERS, Clara	GOPB
WARBY, Clint	Tooele Outreach
WIDMEYER, Marjorie	Citizen
WINTERS, C. Scott	Citizen

INTRODUCTION/MINUTES/CHAIRMAN - Dan Bauer

Dan Bauer called the meeting to order and welcomed all of those in attendance. Jane Bowman made a motion to approve the August 17, 2000 minutes as written and Dennis Downs seconded. The motion carried.

The first order of business was to select a new chairman. Mr. Bauer read a letter from Governor Michael O. Leavitt recommending Dr. Suzanne Winters, State Science Advisor, as the new chairman of the Utah Citizens' Advisory Commission. Dennis Downs made the motion to adopt Governor Leavitt's recommendation and Gary Griffith seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CAC MEMBERSHIP/GROUND RULES

Dr. Winters assumed the position as the chair of the CAC by addressing a membership issue. Dr. Winters stated that although Public Law 102-484 which established the Citizens' Advisory Commission, states that the commission will be composed of nine members, although the Utah CAC has 12 members. To promote continuity of the commission Dr. Winters recommended that Governor Leavitt appoint Dan Bauer as the twelfth member of the commission. Beverly White made the motion to recommend that Mr. Bauer be appointed as a member of the commission. The motion was seconded by Dennis Downs. The motion carried.

Dr. Winters discussed the mission and goals of the CAC and proposed some ground rules. These are rules based on the ground rules adopted by the ACWA Dialogue. The Commission read through the rules and discussed them. Dennis Downs said that he wanted to clarify that the commission is not a regulatory agency but is an advisory board and also a vehicle to provide feed back for the public. After discussion, Dan Bauer made a motion to adopt the ground rules as written. Dennis Downs and Beverly White seconded the motion. The motion carried.

STOCKPILE REPORT - Col. Ed Pate

Col. Pate began his presentation by discussing some of the activities that have occurred at Deseret Chemical Depot since the last CAC meeting.

- On September 13th, they delivered the 10,000th ONC to TOCDF. He said the number is significant because it is larger than any other site will ever attain.
- They held their annual emergency preparedness exercise with Tooele County on September 13th. It was very successful.
- On September 21st Congressional hearings were held regarding the May 8th incident. They discussed corrective actions that have taken place at DCD.
- On October 2nd, Dr. Pak, the head of the Russian chemical, nuclear and biological program, visited Anniston and DCD. During his visit he observed how they ship the munitions and

watched the disposal process. He is trying very hard to get the Russian demil program going.

- As of the October 8th, one half of all of the munitions stored at DCD have been destroyed.
- Since the May 8th incident there have been 97 alarms. The average time to notify the county has been 4.8 minutes. This is significant because there was criticism of DCD in the length of time that it took to notify the county during the May incident.

There have been four vapor overpack leaks since the last meeting. There were leaks in one M55 GB rocket and one VX ton container. They have both been successfully overpacked. There were two 105MM GB projectiles that were found to be leaking when they arrived at TOCDF. They have been destroyed.

Questions

Dave Ostler: How many times can you overpack overpacks?

Col Pate: We have done as many as three levels of overpacks. We just keep using larger overpacks. Once the overpacks go to the plant the workers unbolt the container and take out the next level until they get to the munition. They do this under engineering controls in the plant in full protective gear. **Dave Ostler:** Why aren't they processed when they are found leaking?

Col Pate: It is much more time intensive to process the leakers and so the plant does them in groups. They have us ship over several leakers at one time. That is what they are doing right now with rocket leakers.

Dan Bauer: I presume that you decon the overpack containers?

Col Pate: The overpack container is run through the metal parts furnace because they are just metal cans. They are then shipped to a scrap yard.

Dave Ostler: I am concerned that there have been 97 alarms since the May 8th incident. That is almost one every working day. Because there are so many do they get accustomed to them and ignore them?

Col Pate: Everyone on the depot understands the seriousness of what an alarm could be. We do not have any problem with the plant or the storage area responding to an alarm promptly. Of the ninety seven, fifty five were non-confirmed. Twenty three were inside of engineering controls, so there was no chance of a release.

Jason Groenewold: How many of the 97 alarms were in the stack or duct?

Col Pate: There were fourteen of them in the stack. They were all non-confirmed. I do not have specifics on how many of those were in the duct.

Jason Groenewold: You said that fifty five were non-confirmed and twenty three were in engineering controls, what about the other nineteen?

Col Pate: One was a limited area emergency, which was the leaking of mustard rounds. There were six alarms that were routine leakers that were detected in the igloos that were filtered. There were eight alarms from head wall readings on igloos. Before we open up the igloos we always take a monitoring reading on the outside of the igloo. Four alarms were from on site containers (ONCs) that were shipped to the plant.

Kari Sagers: I want to assure the commission that the county is not getting complacent. Every call

that we receive from DCD is taken seriously.

PROGRAM STATUS - Monte Caldwell

Mr. Caldwell substituted for David Jackson, who is ill. Mr. Caldwell said the construction at Aberdeen (ABCDF) is approximately 10% complete. It is scheduled to be completed July 2003.

The Anniston facility (ANCDF) is 89% complete. They are pre-commissioning and systemizing several portions of the plant. They are also doing some work on systemization and procedures to get E-ONCs (Enhanced On Site Containers) which are different than the ones that are used at TOCDF. Anniston is scheduled to begin operations in 2002.

At the Blue Grass Facility (BGCDF) they are developing schedules and spending plans. Funding is being sought to go ahead with documentation for baseline incineration. That same documentation can quickly be converted to other technologies for disposal of the munitions.

At Johnston Atoll (JACADS) they have disposed of 97% of their munitions and almost 97% of agent. They are working on the M-23 mines, which are the last of the munitions. They are running 3000 mines a week and expect to be finished by the end of the year. They will then begin the cleanup.

The Newport facility (NECDF) has let the contract on the underground utilities and concrete work. Construction is scheduled to be complete in 2002.

Pine Bluff (PBCDF) is 32% complete. Operations are scheduled to begin in 2003.

At Pueblo (PUCDF) they are doing documentation, proposals and working on money issues. The NRC has been briefed on their plans.

The Umatilla (UMCDF) is 87% complete and is scheduled to begin operations in July 2002.

Questions

Dr. Winters: It was my understanding that Congress froze all funds for permitting and development at Blue Grass.

Monte Caldwell: They are asking for funds to start the documentation process for whatever they choose. They have some funding but it is very small.

Jason Groenewold: You said that Colorado is seeking proposals for their facilities. I assume that means alternative technologies as well?

Monte Caldwell: Correct.

Jason Groenewold: Is Kentucky going through that same process?

Monte Caldwell: As far as I know, Kentucky is not at that process yet.

Jason Groenewold: If they do not know what technology they are using why is the money being

sought for incineration?

Monte Caldwell: It is not specifically for incineration. It is specifically being sought to start the RCRA paper work and some of the environmental studies that need to be done prior to groundbreaking. If they get that done, then they are ahead for what ever technology they choose.

CAMDS UPDATE - Don Barclay

Mr. Barclay said that they are in the planning stages to sample the VX stockpile in support of TOCDF and CAMDS agent processing. The facility is prepared and CAMDS is working on the plans with DSHW. They are currently in the metals analysis validation phase. They have collected some small samples of VX, acid digested them, and they have analyzed them for metals. They will be spiking them with certain quantities of metals and then go back to the analytical contractor to determine if there is a detectable difference between the baseline metals and the spiked metals. If everything goes well they will start sampling the ton containers in January 2001.

Mr. Barclay said that the Solvated Electron Technology Demonstration Test was canceled. They have just finished removing the equipment from the CAMDS. They are now testing the Continuous Steam Treater system which is a secondary waste treatment technology. It does not involve any type of agent at CAMDS at this time. They have completed the charcoal and wood 72 hour continuous feed tests. They are systemizing for the DPE 72 hour test and that should occur on October 20. When that is complete they will start the 500 hour test. Mr. Barclay invited the CAC to visit the site to see the Continuous Steam Treater testing.

Questions

Geoff Silcox: Why was the Solvated Electron Technology canceled?

Don Barclay: We were three to four weeks from having the systemization of that process completed and going into the pre-operational survey. At that time the technology provider, Teledyne Commodore, approached PM ACWA with some cost overruns. PM ACWA looked at the amount of money that they have used to fund that program and the time it was taking. PM ACWA evaluated it and determined that Teledyne Commodore could not complete their objectives in time and thus PM ACWA is not willing to fund the additional money for the completion of the test.

Cindy King: Will there be a public comment period of the work plan approval and the metal parts analysis validation before being approved by DSHW?

Don Barclay: It is my understanding that there will not.

Jason Groenewold: How thorough will you be with the sampling of VX? Will you go through all of the munitions and all of the lot numbers?

Don Barclay: We have traced the history of the VX to certain brand lots including those brand lots in the stockpile at DCD. We are proposing to the state that we have performed an adequate characterization of those brand lots of VX that are now contained in the munitions and ton containers at DCD by sampling twelve ton containers. That is the Army's proposal to DSHW.

Jason Groenewold: How do you know that you won't run into jelled agent as you did with GB?

Don Barclay: To my knowledge there has not been a history of jelled VX.

Jason Groenewold: What happens if you get into the rockets and run into jelled agent and trial burns were not done under those conditions?

Don Barclay: Part of the sampling process is to ultra sound the ton containers. We will be searching for that in these munitions.

Jason Groenewold: What about the other munitions?

Don Barclay: There were discussions with the state and this is currently the Army's recommendation. The Army has evaluated the jelled issue and based on the knowledge of VX in the program Army has determined that this is a legitimate concept, although it is not a closed issue.

PLANT STATUS - Mike Rowe

Mike Rowe, General Manager of EG&G, gave an update on TOCDF. They are currently processing the M360 105 mm projectiles, both energetic and non-energetic, the M55 rockets, the M55 rocket leaker overpacks and the GB ton containers. They have destroyed 35% of the nerve agent stockpile and 79% of the GB nerve agent stockpile. There has not been any detectable agent released from the plant stack or vent or action level 3 & 4 occurrence since the last meeting.

Following the plant status Mr. Rowe, explained to the CAC false positives of the ACAMS within the plant. He began by describing the ACAMS and how they are used. The ACAMS are a process where they collect a sample of gas for a certain period of time. That gas then goes through an analytical process which measures the characteristics of some of the properties of that gas. The cycle time for that process is three minutes. Mr. Rowe said that they want to err on the side of caution so the instruments are turned down far enough that they have absolute confidence in the ACAMS. Mr. Rowe went on to describe the collection system, the results recorded on the ACAMS and false positive alarms. (Attachment 1)

Questions

Rosemary Holt: I would like to thank you for your presentation. We requested it last July and I thank you for not letting it fall through the cracks. It was a good presentation.

Jason Groenewold: Would you be willing to do a spike with 22twa in the stack to make sure that the monitors up stream can pick it up?

Mike Rowe: I am going to test the plant to the standards that are approved by the state.

Troy Burrows: I work in the monitoring in the plant. Once a week we do inject a probe with agent inside the duct to make sure that it is working.

Jason Groenewold: Mr. Downs would the state allow that test to be done so that we can check out the monitoring system?

Dennis Downs: I can not answer that tonight.

Marty Gray: In the beginning when we were going over the plans to determine the best way to prove out the monitoring, that suggestion was made. Everyone of the regulators turned it down.

Mike Rowe: The folks who run this are elaborate statisticians. We run very close statistics on these monitors to ensure that they stay in control and function correctly.

Jason Groenewold: The reports said that the draft was not all the way to the end of the probe. What changes have been made to the monitoring system since the May 8th incident.

Mike Rowe: There have been two things that have changed which addressed that concern. We have a device to make sure that the sample line runs to the tip of the probe. The orientation of the probe in the gas stream has changed from perpendicular to a certain degree.

DSHW UPDATE - Marty Gray

Deactivation Furnace Startup

Mr. Gray stated that after the May 8th incident DSHW developed two check lists. One was for the startup of agent operations in the liquid incinerators and metal parts furnace. The other was for the startup of the deactivation furnace. All of the conditions for the startup of the DFS were met on September 18th and they received approval to begin operations.

Empty Munitions by I-15

Mr. Gray briefed the CAC on the empty munitions by I-15. He said these empty munitions and ton containers generated by TOCDF are not considered hazardous waste if the permit conditions for cleaning them are met. Mr. Gray said DSHW did look at the site where the munitions are being stored for transporting them elsewhere and determined that they did not find any problems. OSHA also did an inspection and air monitoring and did not find any problems. Also DEQ did not find any problems. Mr. Gray added that this is a site that is in compliance with the rules. DSHW will continue to monitor the scrap metal that is generated at the plant.

Health Risk Assessment

Mr. Gray said they are in the process of updating the Health Risk Assessment. They have developed a draft protocol from the risk assessment. It is a document that will define how the risk assessment is done. The document is out for public comment until November 8th. There will not be a public meeting but Chris Bittner, the staff toxicologist is available to discuss the document.

Notice of Violation

Mr. Gray discussed a Notice of Violation that was issued June 1999. In the notice of violation, there were 47 findings. Twenty seven of those were self reported. DSHW identified 28 separate violations and assessed a penalty of \$66,973. It has been resolved and closed by the DSHW Control Board. It is now in the hands of the Attorney General's Office.

Questions

Rosemary Holt: Is there some way that we could receive more information on the Health Risk Assessment, such as a summary?

Chris Bittner: It is not easily summarized.

Dennis Downs: I think that we can put together a summary on the process. If you want the nitty

gritty you can go to our web site. Chris, can we do that?

Chris Bittner: Sure some of that is already put together with the fact sheet that we have available from the previous risk assessment.

Dennis Downs: We will take the latest fact sheet and to the extent that we can, summarize what the latest risk assessment will do in general terms and get that to the CAC members.

Dr. Bowman: The public comment ends November 8th. When will you finish updating the protocol?

Marty Gray: Once we have finished accepting public comments and, based on that, if we make changes to the protocol, we will turn it back to our contractor who will start to execute the risk assessment.

Dr. Bowman: Could we get an update at the next meeting?

Marty Gray: Yes.

Dr. Bowman: Can we also see the written public comments?

Marty Gray: Yes.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING - Dennis Downs & Mike Rowe

Dennis Downs

Mr. Downs along with Commissioner Gary Griffith and Kari Sagers were invited to testify at the congressional hearings on September 21, 2000 which were related to the May 8th incident at TOCDF. There were three panels made up of different groups of people. Each panel gave a brief oral statement. They had previously been asked to submit written statements. Mr. Downs gave the CAC copies of his oral and written statements. There were five Congressmen who attended the hearing. Mr. Downs said that they asked very poignant and good questions. Mr. Downs reported on DSHW findings and that they believe recommendations submitted by DSHW and CDC have been put into place. He said they addressed CSEPP issues, technical issues of the actual structure of the facility, of what happened and what needed to be fixed and how it was fixed. There was pointed discussion between certain Congressmen representing other states. There was discussion with the Department of Defense concerning litigation fees and the ability or inability to provide those in Alabama and Arkansas. Mr. Downs said that it was an interesting experience and he enjoyed being in Washington D.C.

Mike Rowe

Mr. Rowe added a few comments. He said it was a very interesting and intense experience. The Congressmen asked very direct questions. They asked Mr. Rowe if things were corrected at the facility and he answered, yes they were. Mr. Rowe said that Congressman Hansen was very supportive and spoke very well of those at TOCDF. Mr. Rowe was very pleased with Congressman Hansen's input at the hearing.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM IX RECAP - Dennis Downs

Dennis Downs reported on the Environmental Forum which is sponsored by the Army. This

forum is specific to the Chemical Demilitarization Program and is held annually. This provides an opportunity for high level officials from the Department of Defense, the Department of Army, the Program Managers Office for Chemical Demilitarization and local facilities to meet together with state and federal regulators and also Citizens' Advisory Commission members. There were breakout sessions with the different groups. Mr. Downs said that some of the topics discussed were: CSEPP, emergency response, ACWA, secondary waste, JACADS closure, status of the chemical stockpile disposal, alternative technologies, the status of the program, the non-stockpile program and the TOCDF May 8th incident. There were opportunities for state and EPA regulators to get together and discuss issues. There were also sessions for CAC members.

Suzanne Winters attended the sessions on the CAC at the Environmental Forum. There were a number of issues that were discussed including the administration and funding of the CAC. As a result of that meeting, Dr. Winters is receiving agendas and minutes from other state CAC meetings.

MITRETEK NON-STOCKPILE REPORT

Dr. Winters discussed the Mitretek Report that was recently released. This report was requested by a congressional sub-committee to look at the feasibility of non-stockpile materiel disposal in stockpile facilities. This report does not address transportation of non-stockpile materiel outside of Utah. Mitretek held a public availability meeting at the DEQ building in early October. Rosemary Holt said she attended the meeting and it was interesting. She is concerned that even though the report does not address transporting non-stockpile across state lines she is afraid for the future. She is afraid that the state regulators will allow permitting of transportation non-stockpile into Utah.

Dr. Winters said that Governor Leavitt has publically stated that he will oppose transportation of weapons from outside of the state. Recently there was an editorial in the Anniston Star newspaper in Anniston Alabama. The editorial stated that Utah wanted more weapons from other states to burn in their incinerators because of jobs. Dr. Winters responded to the editorial. (Attachment 2)

There was a discussion among the CAC members regarding this issue. From this discussion a resolution was drafted by the CAC in response to the Mitretek report (Attachment 3). A motion was made by Dave Ostler to adopt the resolution and Rosemary Holt seconded. The motion carried with Gary Griffith abstaining.

Dr. Jane Bowman asked about the non-stockpile core group being facilitated by the Keystone Center. Dennis Downs said that it is a core group of Army personnel and a few people from states that have a large amount of non-stockpile materiel. They discuss where the non-stockpile program should be going and how it impacts various states. It is an ad-hoc group and not a decision or policy making group. Dr. Bowman requested that someone from the Utah CAC serve on that group.

CITIZEN CONCERNS

Roger Grenier

The citizen concern portion of the meeting began with Roger Grenier reading a statement regarding safety with alternative technologies. (Attachment 4) Suzanne Winters said that she would do some research into the matter and report her findings at the next meeting.

Jason Groenewold

Jason Groenewold said that he is concerned with the munitions found at I-15. When Mr. Groenewold and Trina Allen went to the site off of I-15 where the casings were being held for transportation they found debris in the munitions. They sent some samples to two different labs that have been certified by the EPA. Lead was found at very high levels in the soil samples.

Mr. Groenewold stated that when TOCDF began operating in 1996 the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste made the decision that all metal casings leaving TOCDF would be treated as hazardous waste after they were processed. In November 1999 that position changed and DSHW granted permission for the casings to be treated as scrap metal. In March 2000, DSHW sent a letter to the Army stating that the Army had not met its criteria regarding the metal casings and told the Army to treat it as hazardous waste. Mr. Groenewold reiterated his concern and said that he would like the state to take samples of the air and soil around those munitions.

Dennis Downs said that DSHW is aware of the situation at the I-15 site. DSHW has made the determination that it is not a health hazard to the employees at TOCDF of the public, nor is there an environmental hazard associated with the scrap metal. The scrap metal has been treated in a way that it qualifies for the scrap metal recycling exemption. Marty Gray said that when they were first writing the permit, DSHW did not have enough information on the processed munitions to say whether or not it would be hazardous waste. DSHW required extensive testing by CAMDS and TOCDF to prove that once the metal has gone through the furnace there is no residue left. Following the testing and demonstrating that there was not any hazardous waste, a permit modification was submitted, DSHW approved the permit. Mr. Gray said when the ton containers come out of the furnaces they are still fairly hot. After they have cooled they are vacuumed out. Once they are set outside, paint and rust starts to fall off. There is a debris that builds up but it is a metal and paint debris, not hazardous waste. Mr. Gray added DSHW made a site inspection along with the EPA and OSHA and their findings were the same.

Cindy King

Cindy King asked several questions. She asked if DSHW realized that their risk assessment protocol on their home page is difficult to retrieve. She wanted the CAC to know that in an appellate court decision, any new data of the risk assessment is to go before the public. She also asked if the EPA had approved the 5X process by the Army. Also, what steps did DSHW take to correlate with the Division of Air Quality to assure that the metals were not being blown off site at I-15. Ms. King said that there was a temporary authorization that was dated October 17, 2000 that

changes the way the ton containers are processed at TOCDF and she wanted to know why it did not go before the public.

In answering Ms. Kings questions:

- Chris Bittner was not aware of problems with downloading the risk assessment protocol but he would look into it.
- Chris Bittner is willing to meet with anyone regarding the risk assessment.
- Dennis Downs said the 5X is a military designation and not a regulatory designation. The military has said if they meet these standards - the 5X standard which they set up - then it is no longer hazardous waste.
- Marty Gray said he called the Division of Air Quality and asked if they had any regulatory concerns and they said that they did not.
- Marty Gray said DSHW received a request for authorization but it has not been approved. It is being evaluated.

James Colburn

James Colburn requested that Jason Groenewold provide to the commission the data that specifies the EPA protocol that was followed when he gathered samples at the I-15. Also, the chain of custody relative to the sample. Mr. Groenewold said he would provide the data at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held in Tooele on November 16, 2000 at 6:30p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55p.m.